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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY

Bulgaria

RETURN TO CIA

DATE DISTR.

31 July 1952

SUBJECT

Miscellaneous Information from Bulgaria

NO. OF PAGES

DATE OF INFO.

PLACE

ACQUIRED

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NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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- 1. At the beginning of May 1952, anti-Communists were responsible for a tremendous explosion which occurred in the Georgi Dimitrov plant in Sofia. The police arrested approximately a dozen workers, four of whom were condemned to death immediately and without an inquiry.
- 2. At the end of May 1952, anti-Communists set fire to a cotton warehouse, allegedly located in Sofia, which supplied all the cotton factories in Bulgaria. Approximately 1,000 tons of cotton were destroyed. Police arrested all those who were on duty at the warehouse the day of the fire.
- 3. In the last two months (April and May 1952?), the Bulgarian authorities deported to the interior of Bulgaria all those persons in the Yugoslav border area who were not completely trusted by the regime. Recently, many families were forced to leave the region of Kula and Godenitsa (sic), particularly those families from which some member had escaped to Yugoslavia.
- 4. Soon, all Bulgarians will receive new identity cards. The people will be divided into categories according to their standing in respect to the Communist Party. Some will be permitted to travel throughout Bulgaria, except in military zones where a special pass is needed, while others will be permitted to travel only in the zone where they live.
- 5. Following the recent financial reform, the economic situation in Bulgaria has become increasingly chaotic. The peasants raise the prices on those products which are in shortage in the state-sponsored stores and lower the prices on those products which the state-sponsored stores have in stock. Thus, at

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Turgovishte, the peasants sell bread cheaper than the government price. Recently, the police of Sofia seized all the strawberries on the open markets because the government-sponsored stores were lacking this commodity. Following this measure, peasants withheld most of their produce.

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25X1A Comment: Your attention is directed to which reported the destruction by fire of the Runo spinning mill near Sofia on 2 and 3 April 1952.

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